



The Bethel Courier.

VOLUME IX, NUMBER 3

FALL 1985

BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Chapman Street, c. 1910

CHAPMAN STREET THROUGH THE YEARS

by Donald S. and Arlene G. Brown

Editor's Note: This article began as a paper given at the April 1985 meeting of the Society. The authors wish to thank all those who helped with the research and shared their memories and photographs.

The origins of Chapman Street extend at least back to the 1870s when Josiah Dutton (1825-1913), a carpenter and house builder, constructed his house on the corner of what is today Chapman and Mason streets, the former Euberto Brown house (now the home of Ray & Leslie Cooley). This building is clearly visible in the 1878 Bird's Eye View of Bethel which presumably dates from actual observation in 1876 or 1877. Dutton's presence probably explains why Chapman Street on the Bird's Eye print appears as Dutton Street and two years later in 1880 when Caldwell & Halfpenny published their *Atlas*, it had become Chapman Street. To avoid confusion, it is necessary to focus on the street originally named Dutton and not the Chapman street noted on the Bird's Eye View which appears from today's perspective to be the lower end of present-day Elm Street.

Chapman Street, formerly Dutton Street, was, from all indications, named for Robert A. Chapman, born in 1807 in Gilead, who married on March 28, 1833, Frances, the daughter of Dr. Timothy Carter. Chapman became one of the wealthiest men in Bethel, holding in 1870, according to the census of that year, real estate worth \$30,000 and personal estate of \$20,000. This was the state of things at a time when the average Bethel citizen's holdings rarely topped \$3,000. Chapman gained his wealth by holding large tracts of land, particularly on Bethel Hill and operating his store for more than fifty years. By 1880, it is clear from the *Atlas* of that year, Robert Chapman had built at least two residences on what is today Chapman Street. This fact

is probably the reason why the street's name was changed to honor a member of an old Bethel family, grandson of the man who had named the town, and a very rich and successful one as well. By comparison, Josiah Dutton held property worth \$800 in real estate and \$125 in personal estate, a mere pittance in comparison to Chapman, and we know how nineteenth century Americans were wedded to the notion that the amount of property was the real indication of a man's worth.

The historian William Berry Lapham described Chapman as very "industrious." He continued: "When I was attending school in Bethel, I was in the habit of occasionally rising early and going to Paradise Hill to have a view of the gorgeous sunrise from that point, and I never passed Mr. Chapman's place in the early morning twilight, without seeing him at work about his chores, milking his cows, and feeding his horses, or at work in his garden, and getting ready for his day's employment in the store." Lapham wrote approvingly of his "strictly temperate" habits and that he was "a liberal supporter" and "constant attendant at the Congregational Church." As a Democrat, he was elected to the State Senate in 1850 and re-elected in 1851, but later worked for the temperance cause and joined the Republican party. Father of six children, he died in 1880 soon after his name was given to the street.

(1) Beginning at the Main Street end of Chapman Street on the right, we find the present home of Charles and Carol Nielson; he is a teacher in Dixfield and she is one in Rumford. The land for this house was purchased from Robert A. Chapman in 1872 by Roxanna B. Plaisted (1848-1915) who was the wife of George Plaisted (1845-1901), builder of the house in the 1870s. He was listed as a carriage maker in the 1870 census and was a livery stable operator for many years. His wife, the former Anna Barden, gave birth to a son Harry (1876-1913), and a daughter Susie (1863-1945), who inherited the house from her parents, and lived there many years. Her brother operated a livery, boarding and baiting stable here until his death at the age of 37. The 1904 special edition of the *Bethel News* recorded that Plaisted "not only conducts a class livery but he also attends to the carrying of the express and mail matter of the village, and furnishes the medium of public conveyance and baggage to and from the trains." His sister, Susie, was a clerk at Rowe's Store and later a bookkeeper for John Harrington. Upon Susie Plaisted's death in 1946, her piano, appraised at \$106, was

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willed to the Methodist Church. Miss Plaisted's heir, George B. Hodsdon, sold the premises to Chester Briggs on July 13, 1946. He was a telegraph operator at the Bethel railroad station and along with his wife, Ruby, were active in the choir of the Methodist Church. Ruby Briggs sold the property to Edward and Edith Kirk Robertson on October 17, 1957. The Robertsons made extensive changes, including making three apartments of the house. Edward Robertson was superintendent at Hanover Dowel Company until he and Edie moved to Kingfield, where he worked for Kingfield Wood Products. The Robertsons sold the property on September 14, 1970 to Donald and Bonnie Angevine, who removed the porches and separated the barn from the house. They also erected a building for their Anco Real Estate business. This building was later purchased by Steve Wight and moved to Sunday River Inn in Newry. Later, Edward Kennett moved it to his home on Mason Street (now owned by Mary Valentine) and later Kennett moved it to his new home on Bird Hill. Tenants who have lived here through the years have been Dr. John and Margaret Trinward, Charles and Doris Cornell, Frank and Maude Hunt (their children Frank, Jr., and Norma were born here), Colwyn and Judy Haskell and Town Manager Michael Houlihan. Present tenants of the current owners who purchased the property in 1978 are James Mann and Stanley Jones.

(2) The next house, formerly owned by John Witter, was probably built in the 1870s shortly after Edmund L. Holt (1832-1912) purchased the land from Robert A. Chapman. Holt was a house painter who lived here with his wife Phebe (1835-1902) and adopted a son Edwin (1865-1900). Edwin, who died of pneumonia, was an alumnus of Gould Academy, and worked as a blacksmith at J. C. Billings' shop, on the railroad and with his father as a painter, paperhanger and decorator. From the Holt family the property passed to Frank E. Purington on January 4, 1916. Purington sold it to John Millard Fraser on October 16, 1919 and from him it passed to Edith Grover (1867-1957). She sold it to John Messerve on February 3, 1937 who sold it to John Anderson in 1945. From his heirs it passed to Charles (1885-1964) and Cecil (1892-1966) Reed for \$4500 on July 26, 1948. Cecil Reed sold the premises to Bradley and Ann Brown Benson for \$5466 on June 28, 1965. Ann Benson Rotroff sold the property to John Witter on April 24, 1980, who sold to Charles and Carol Nielson in 1985. Clyde and Bertha Stevens once rented the downstairs of this house until they moved to the former Copeland (now Bohr) house in 1937. Leslie and Doris Merrill lived upstairs at this time. Gordon Merrill and wife once rented the house; current tenants are David and Patty Bridges. Miss Brickett offered piano lessons here when Edith Grover owned the house in the late 1920s and early 1930s.

EDITOR'S CORNER

As the *Courier* nears its tenth year of existence it is important to emphasize how many institutions, ranging from the Library of Congress to the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, have requested and received complete runs of this Society publication. I am also impressed with the large number of Society members who have told me that they treasure their issues of the *Courier* and often refer to them for particular points of information. It is clear then that the *Courier* has become important to many individuals and institutions and it will be my goal in the next year or so to produce a ten year index. This should make it easier to find information and be a real service to our many readers.

SRH

When Millard Fraser lived here as an item in the local newspaper for November 11, 1920 recorded he had "reshingled the house and ell of his home on Chapman Street" and also "re-topped the chimney and put in set tubs."

(3) Elaine Packard's house can be traced back to at least 1875 when Robert Chapman sold the property to Roxann (Anna) Plaisted (wife of George) on October 15, 1875. From her, the property passed to Sherman Haselton on January 6, 1906. He sold to Ida Haselton on December 3, 1925. From the Haselton family the property passed to Fred Clark, who sold the premises to William Rogers Chapman (1855-1935), Bethel's famed music conductor, on July 18, 1934. From the Chapman estate the property was sold to John (1887-1960) and Verna (1889-1966) Carter on April 26, 1954. John Carter, who was a selectman and member of the Maine House of Representatives and later the State Senate, sold the property to Rodney and Katheryn Eames on April 20, 1960. From the Eames family the property was purchased by Frank and Elaine Packard, February 11, 1964. Among those who have lived here are Harry (1876-1951) and Grace (1875-1955) Brown, Webster Grover (1866-1931) (father of Albert), the Carl Larsen family, Ardelle and Alene Clifford Hinckley. Frank Packard worked at Boise Cascade many years before his death in 1984. The Packards have made many changes to the property including a new chimney, new bathroom and the replacement of the porch. Charles and Eugenia Haselton, who once lived here, were both Gould graduates and sang in the choir of the Methodist Church.

(4) The house now owned by Charles and Gail Munzner was probably built in the early years of this century by Austin Wheeler (1841-1915). From his estate the property was sold to Walter E. Bartlett (1874-1951) on June 9, 1915. Bartlett was long the tax collector of Bethel and sold insurance. In fact he was so successful as an insurance salesman that he was awarded complimentary trips by his company to such places as New Orleans, LA, Palm Beach, FL and Cincinnati, OH. After his widow Grace's death in 1965, the house was sold by her son Wilbert to Harry and Barbara Lyon Kuzyk on October 21, 1966. The Kuzyks sold the property to Richard and Grace Douglas on December 26, 1967, who in turn sold it on June 15, 1972 to Richard and Louann Brown Prescott. He was a teacher at Telstar Regional High School and she is the daughter of Vernon and Maxine Brown. The picture window on the front of the house was installed by the Prescotts. They sold the premises to Parker and Juanita Allen on October 28, 1975, who sold it to Thelma Remington on August 23, 1976. Mrs. Remington sold it to the present owners in 1980. This house for many years had an apartment that has been rented by a variety of people, including Alice Taylor, Roland Glines, Ronald Mills and Pauline King. Charles Munzner is a master electrician.

(5) Earlon Paine's new home sits on land purchased from Harry and Barbara Kuzyk on August 2, 1967. The house was a New England Home and was assembled in one morning. The Paines moved into the house on August 19, 1968. He retired as Bethel Postmaster in 1983 and Mary continues to work as a secretary for the U.S. Forestry Service. They installed a swimming pool in 1983.

(6) When Alfred and Faith Brown's house was being built for Robert A. Chapman, Fred Edwards, who was born in 1865, remembered riding on the sled with his father, Clark Edwards, who brought the doors and windows for the house up to the Chapman Street location from an old house in Albany. Since he was but four years old at the time Mr. Edwards could not remember where the old house stood in Albany. Since Edwards was born in 1865 the construction date must be 1869. William Sanderson acquired the land and buildings from the

heirs of Robert A. Chapman in 1884 for \$1000. Sanderson, a lumberman, age 62 in 1880, sold the property to Frances Stowe on November 1, 1886. From Stowe the premises passed to William Wiley who sold to Levi Bartlett. Austin Wheeler sold the property in 1904. The next owner that can be found is Grace Taylor who sold to William and Lorana Adams on September 23, 1930. Adams, a barber, sold to Mildred Taylor on May 1, 1933, who sold to Henry Flint the following year. Henry Flint (1901-1951) sold the property to the present owners on February 8, 1944.

Julia Brown, long-time telephone operator, lives in the upstairs rent. Other renters here include Clayton and Bertha Mundt Mills, Cecil and Josephine Parker, and Edna Smith and family. During the late 1920s Ralph (1885-1973) and Helen Berry lived here with Levi Bartlett (1845-1930) a Civil War veteran. Helen Berry helped care for him. Later the Berry family moved back to their house on Tyler Street. The winter of 1927-28 Fannie Capen Carter and family lived in this house while Mrs. Carter took care of Levi Bartlett, who was Mrs. Grace Tyler's father. Fred Douglass once told Alfred Brown that he lived here as a young boy. Alfred Brown also recalls seeing John Harris down on his knees looking over the ground in what is now Robert Keniston's back yard. Harris told Alfred Brown that he was looking for a rock under which there was a large spring of water which was used by the cows once pastured here. This spring ran over and created a brook that supplied water for a pond across the street. Gardiner Gorman recalls that he and his brother Charles floated a raft there in summer and people skated on this pond in the winter.

(7) Robert and Virginia Davis Keniston moved into their house in 1949 after buying the land from Henry Flint in 1946. Robert Keniston recalls being told that his land was once a pasture and then a corn field. The top soil was later removed for use on the Bethel Inn Golf Course. The bulldozer used for excavation for the Keniston house was salvaged from the bottom of Umbagog Lake after falling through the ice. Robert York did the bulldozer work. Robert Keniston was bicentennial chairman in 1976 and retired in 1984 from Diamond International in Peru. His wife recently retired as librarian at the Bethel Library. Robert Keniston continues to make fancy bowls and dishes of many varieties of wood in his retirement.

(8) The Jean Maguire House once stood on Church Street and was owned by Cleo Russell (1881-1958). It was moved in two parts in 1937 by James Spinney (1890-1967) for Henry Flint, who sold it on November 14, 1947 to Arthur and Rosa Garber, who in turn conveyed it to Ray York on September 14, 1949. From his widow, Elsie York, the premises were purchased by Jean Maguire and her father, Felix Stalmuke in 1983. Since that time many changes have been made, including the addition of a basement.

(9) Ray and Leslie Cooley own the former Josiah Dutton house which was built in the 1870s. Later it was sold to John Bolster on October 16, 1882. James French (1811-1884) purchased it from Bolster on December 8, 1882 and from him it went to Sarah French in 1884. From the French family it passed to Albert Frost (brother of Susan Edwards), the blacksmith in 1910. Frost sold it to Euberto (1877-1964) and Mary (1888-1967) Brown on April 5, 1923. From the Brown heirs the house was sold to Robert and Dorothy Colby on March 5, 1970. Maryvonne Wheeler acquired the premises from the Colbys in 1975 and sold it to the present owners in 1984. "Bert" Brown was Bethel Road Commissioner for many years and director of the Townsend Club in 1936.

(10) The origins of the Leroy Bennett house extend back to about the turn of the century when the property was acquired
(continued on page 4)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

I would like to begin the new historical society season by thanking all the officers, committee members and volunteers for their fine work during the past year. To mention a few of the highlights: our investment portfolio has been re-organized, the gardens and grounds have been carefully groomed all summer so that they have never looked more attractive, and Sudbury Canada days was a great success.

Our summer exhibits "Maine Before Statehood" and "William Rogers Chapman" attracted much attention. This fall's offering "A Good Stand of Buildings" will also be of great interest to many visitors.

The one area that needs attention comes from "growing pains." With Society membership at an all-time high and ever increasing, the meeting space is becoming increasingly too small. Interest in our October program was so large that we were forced to seek a larger facility to accommodate several hundred persons. We need to address the space issue and make plans for the future.

Alden T. Kennett

1985 ANNUAL MEETING

The 20th annual meeting of the Society was held on September 5 with the traditional pot luck supper supervised by the Special Projects Committee preceding it.

During the business portion of the meeting, a letter from Mary C. Keniston was read announcing her resignation as a trustee of the Society. The Nominating Committee consisting of Willard Wight, Chairman, Earlon Paine and Sarah Stevens presented the following slate of officers: President, Alden T. Kennett; Vice-President, Marvin Ouwinga; Secretary and Clerk of the Trustees, Charles F. Raymond; Treasurer, Mary C. Keniston; Trustee for three years, Margaret Joy Tibbetts; Trustee for two years (replacing Mary C. Keniston), Donald S. Brown. These nominees were then elected by a vote of the membership. President Kennett then reviewed some of the highlights of the 1984-85 year: approximately 3000 persons visited the Dr. Moses Mason House since the last annual meeting (many of them students from area schools); the exhibit "Early People of Northern Maine" here in meeting room during fall of 1985; the Adams Chronicles film series held in meeting room; eighty seven new members added since last annual meeting; very successful Homecoming, Heritage Day, Dr. Moses Mason Birthday Party, Faye Taylor Memorial Art Show and Sudbury Canada Days held; publication of an article in Maine History News on the Society's Twitchell exhibit; publication by the University Press of New England of Thomas Hubka's BIG HOUSE, LITTLE HOUSE, BACK HOUSE BARN: THE CONNECTED FARM BUILDINGS OF NEW ENGLAND, which contains many photographs from the collection of the Bethel Historical Society; the raising of \$7280 in 1984 for the endowment surpassing the goal of \$7000; a MAP II grant awarded by the Institute of Museum Services; receipt of a grant from the Maine Humanities Council for the Maine at Statehood exhibit and lecture by Dr. Stephen Marini of Wellesley College; publication of the Chester Harding catalog by the National Portrait Gallery which includes photographs of the portraits of Doctor and Mrs. Moses Mason; William Rogers Chapman exhibit commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of his death.

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(Chapman Street, continued from page 3)

by Dr. Francis Tuell, the town dentist, who purchased it from Frances Robertson. Dr. Tuell sold it to John Kimball, who sold it to Benjamin Fickett. From the Fickett family, it passed to Frank and Bertha Williamson on May 15, 1919. Their son Earl S. Williamson, Sr. sold the property to Katherineleen M. Bennett on November 3, 1941. Her son lives there today.

(11) Martha Von Zintl's house lot was once the property of Edwin H. Smith, who sold it to Alfaretta F. Edwards, sister of Fred Edwards on August 18, 1910. She sold the land to Euberto P. and Mary Brown, who deeded it to their daughter and husband William and Martha Von Zintl on July 23, 1942. The Von Zintls were long known for founding and operating for many years "Martha's Restaurant" at the lower end of Main Street. The original section of this house was once a garage (owned by Alfaretta Edwards) which stood on the lot where Vernon and Maxine Brown's house is now located on Tyler Street. "Bert" Brown, Gilbert Brown and William Von Zintl, using an old GMC town truck, turned the building around and moved it forward on the lot.

(12) Across Tyler Street from the Von Zintl house is the home of Doris Fraser. The land was purchased from Robert York on July 14, 1950. The house was built by Grover Brooks Construction Company. Herbert Kittredge, "Willy" Morgan, Donald Brooks and Mellen Kimball were among those who worked on the structure. The Fraser family moved into the house in September 1950. Doris Fraser's husband, Donald, son of Millard, died in 1970.

(13) The origins of the house now owned by Kenneth and Gweneth Bohr extend back to the turn of the century when Eben S. Kilborn sold the land to Alberto F. Copeland. Copeland lived here until his death in 1928 and was one of the most interesting persons to have lived on the street. He was born in Dexter, Maine in 1860 and married Ella Harding (1854-1931) of Bethel. At the time of the Klondike gold rush (1896) he was one of several from Bethel to seek his fortune there, but soon returned, apparently without becoming rich. He was active in several lines of business, including farm machinery, fertilizer, lumbering, real estate and farming. For many years he was the manufacturer of a leather bit which was sold extensively throughout the state. He was once master of the Bethel Grange and was reported by the Bethel Citizen "as always much interested in its various activities." Copeland could often be seen driving a big black horse followed by a black dog. He owned also one of the first automobiles in Bethel. After World War I, Copeland bought twelve railroad carloads of surplus army wagons (mainly for the wheels and axles). Many were sold, but by looking at the detailed inventory of his estate there seem to have been some unsold at the time of his death in 1928. After Mrs. Copeland's death in 1931 the house was auctioned off, but little is known of its residents until it was purchased by Robert York in 1941. Robert York was for several years the foreman of the Bethel town crew and after moving from Bethel became a town manager of several towns in Maine. His widow, Edna, daughter of H. I. Bean, still resides in Bethel. The Yorks sold the property to Eugene and Abbie Buswell on November 24, 1961. The Buswells sold the premises to Barry and Diane Titcomb, who made many interior renovations, and in 1975 sold it to the present owners. There once was another barn in back of the house bordering Kilborn Street, which burned many years ago. Kilborn Street joins Chapman at this point. This street was deeded to the Town of Bethel by Eben S. Kilborn and Copeland on November 17, 1905. At that time there was no street extending to Vernon but the town had ten years to approve construction. At the 1906 town meeting, this approval was granted. Some of the tenants who have lived in the



Sudbury Canada Days 1985 (August 10-11). In the photo above Barbara H. Brown readies flowers for the flower show, one of the many events during this two day festival. Other events included a children's parade, children's games, historical film series, art show, horseshoe and croquet tournaments, old time craft exhibits and demonstrations, variety show, bean supper, old-fashioned church service and the concert the Middle Intervale Meeting House. Photo courtesy of Robert Keniston.

(Copeland-Bohr) house are the families of Norman Hall, Harry King, Clyde Stevens, John Greenleaf, Perry Judkins, Gladys Bean, Mellen Kimball, Rodney Eames and David Tripp.

(14) Evelyn Wing's house dates from 1891 since the local newspaper of that year periodically reported the progress Eben S. Kilborn was making on his house. The stable was built in 1893. Kilborn sold the property to Wesley Wheeler (1879-1963) in 1916. When Mr. Wheeler bought the house, one of the first things he did was fill in the pond, which was caused by the over flow of the spring located in what is now the Keniston back yard. Besides the rocks and dirt he used for fill, he added as fertilizer, horse and cow manure raked from the town streets. He had what he called a "tip-cart" which was a two-wheeled dump cart, which he filled until it balanced, and then could tip it and dump the contents without shoveling. He also raised the roof of the ell of the house. Mr. Wheeler was a Star Route carrier for several years and also a familiar figure at the railroad station picking up and delivering mail for the Bethel Post Office. In later years, he was very lame, but still wanting to work, he tied a rope to his lame leg so he could manipulate his foot to use the clutch of his standard shift truck. He was Bethel Sealer of Weights and Measures from 1921-1938. From the Wheeler family the property passed to Ralph and Dorothy Ryder. He was at one time Superintendent of Bethel schools. The Ryders sold the property to Maurice (he worked for the forest service) and Romaine Bouchard in 1970 and they conveyed the premises to Richard and Evelyn Wing in 1981. Mr. Wing died this year. Among those who have rented this house were Jesse and Elmira Wheeler Doyen, Eugene and Jane Van, Carl and Ruth Brown, Adney and Agnes Guernsey, Archie and Ruth Young and John and Barbara Greenleaf.

(15) Earl Davis built this house in 1951 after acquiring the land from John Burbank and Wesley Wheeler in 1946 and 1948. Their son, Stanley was the builder and their other son Jerrold helped in the construction. Earl and his wife Elsie

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BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1984

B. Sturges Butler
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

TELEPHONE 778-4306

7 BROADWAY
FARMINGTON, MAINE 04938

Board of Trustees
Bethel Historical Society
Bethel, Maine 04217

We have examined the balance sheet of the Bethel Historical Society at December 31, 1984 and the statements of revenues and expenditures and changes in fund balances for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial position of the Bethel Historical Society at December 31, 1984 and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

B. Sturges Butler
B. Sturges Butler
Public Accountant

September 25, 1985

BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 13, 1984 AND DECEMBER 31, 1983

	1984 Total All Funds	1983 Total All Funds
ASSETS		
Cash in Banks	\$ 109,766	\$ 112,969
Investments	240,262	224,944
Due from grants		3,952
Inventory at cost	2,318	2,377
Prepaid Insurance	1,624	1,240
Properties and equipment at cost- net (Note 2)	242,052	253,323
Land	5,000	5,000
Collections material	13,495	11,795
Total Assets	\$614,517	\$615,600
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES		
Accounts payable	\$ 1,053	\$ 1,823
Accrued expenses payable	582	403
Total Liabilities	1,635	2,226
Fund balances:		
Undesignated	18,215	23,766
Restricted - General	285,749	319,690
- "Sidney's Fund"	308,918	269,918
Total fund balances	612,882	613,374
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$614,517	\$615,600

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of the financial statements.



Ralph Hall (1985)
MEMBER PROFILE

Born in Dorchester, Massachusetts March 15, 1892, the son of a Maine couple (Stacy L. and Myra T. Hall), Ralph Stacy Hall has a long record of service to the Bethel Historical Society, beginning as presiding officer at the first meeting in May 1966. Mr. Hall married the former Marion E. Foster of Bethel and they had one daughter, Muriel. He was long a fruit and produce commission merchant in the Boston area, retiring to Bethel in 1960 after more than forty years in this business, begun by his grandfather in 1848. In 1950 he built the large white house on Paradise where he and Marion still live. During his retirement, Mr. Hall has been associated with the Bethel Fire Department and is a member of the West Parish Congregational Church. He has donated countless dozens of photographs to the Society as well as photographic equipment and historical artifacts. He has presented programs at Society meetings, assisted with special projects and helped wherever possible. A life member since 1980, he is also a charter member of the Society.

BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1984 AND DECEMBER 31, 1983

	1984 Total All Funds	1983 Total All Funds
Revenues:		
General contributions (Note 3)	\$ 360	\$ 57,808
Dues	2,901	2,759
Admissions and sales income	4,351	3,352
Rental income	245	130
Investment income	24,380	23,810
Income from Programs	13,974	1,115
Grant income	7,500	3,332
Total Income	53,711	92,306
Expenses:		
Director's Expense	541	1,298
Advertising		385
Program exhibits		581
Merchandise for resale	1,088	1,341
Depreciation expense	11,271	11,271
Salaries	13,871	13,999
Heat, lights, water and sewer	5,099	4,469
Janitorial services	78	85
Supplies and postage	5,468	3,357
Insurance	3,043	2,003
Building repairs	1,563	840
Taxes	1,384	1,233
Dues	356	285
Professional fees	900	500
Bookkeeping expenses	1,200	1,100
Telephone	633	273
Miscellaneous expense	208	27
Special program - Grant expense	7,500	3,332
Total expenses	54,203	46,379
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(492)	45,927
Fund balance at beginning of year	613,374	567,447
Fund balance end of year	\$612,882	\$613,374

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

B. Sturges Butler
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

(Continued from page 3)

NEW TRUSTEE - Donald S. Brown

A native of Bethel, Donald S. Brown is a graduate of Gould Academy (1938). He served in the Pacific during World War II, attended the New York Institute of Photography after the war, and then opened a photographic studio in Bethel in 1946. In 1950 he joined the family printing business, serving as printer and photographer until his retirement in 1984. A member of the Odd Fellows, Methodist Church, and the Middle Intervale Meeting House Society, he also is the local representative for the Salvation Army and trustee of the Bethel Library. He married the former Arlene Greenleaf of Bethel and they are the parents of two children, Danna (Mrs. George Nickerson) who operates a flower shop in Bethel and Kurt, a student at the University of Southern Maine, who is also a professional photographer. The Browns live in a house they built on Chapman Street and have one grandchild. They have been very active in the Society for the past decade.

BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION FOR INDIVIDUAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 1984

ASSETS	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		RESTRICTED FUNDS	
	CURRENT	PROPERTIES	COLLECTIONS	ENDOWMENT
Cash in banks				
Investments	\$ 3,013	\$ 4,064		\$102,689
Due from grants				240,262
Inventory at cost				
Prepaid insurance	2,318			
Properties and equipment at cost (Note 2)	1,624			
Less accumulated depreciation		370,528		
Land		128,476		
Collections materials		242,052		
		5,000		
Total assets			13,495	
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 6,955	\$251,116	\$ 13,495	\$342,951
Accounts payable				
Accrued expenses payable	\$ 1,053	\$	\$	\$
	582			
Total liabilities				
Fund balances	1,635			
Undesignated				
Restricted - General	5,320			12,895
- "Sidney's Fund"		251,116	13,495	31,138
Total fund balances				308,918
Total liabilities and fund balances	5,320	251,116	13,495	342,951
	\$ 6,955	\$251,116	\$ 13,495	\$342,951

The accompanying summary of significant accounting policies and notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

B. STURGES BUTLER
Public Accountant



Museum Guides Carolyn Brooks (1) and Mary Valentine pause at the Meeting Room Door of the Dr. Moses Mason House.

Note 1 - Major accounting policies:

Inventories:
Inventories are recorded at cost as there are no items being sold at less than the cost value.

Properties and depreciation:
Purchased properties are recorded at cost; donated properties are recorded at market value at the date of the gift. Maintenance and repairs are charged to the appropriate expense accounts in the year incurred; renewals and replacements are capitalized. Depreciation is computed using the straight line method at annual rates based upon estimated useful lives. The useful lives are 40 years for the building and 10 years on most of the equipment and furniture. Collection materials which are to be retained permanently are not depreciated.

Note 2 - Properties:

Major Properties classifications are as follows:

	BUILDING	BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS	EQUIPMENT AND FURNISHINGS	COLLECTIONS MATERIALS
December 31, 1984	\$278,621	\$57,509	\$ 34,398	\$ 11,795
Additions				1,700
December 31, 1984	\$278,621	\$57,509	\$ 34,398	\$ 13,795
Depreciation charges were as follows				
Building			\$ 6,966	
Building improvements			2,145	
Equipment and furnishings			2,160	
			\$ 11,271	



Sunday River Bridge, Bethel, Maine (near the present Roberts Poultry Farm).

BETHEL HISTORICAL SOCIETY STATEMENTS OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE FOR INDIVIDUAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1984

	UNRESTRICTED FUNDS		RESTRICTED FUNDS	
	CURRENT	PROPERTIES	COLLECTIONS	ENDOWMENT
Revenues:				
General contributions (Note 3)	\$ 360	\$	\$	\$
Dues	2,901			
Admissions and sales income	4,351			
Rental income	245			
Investment income	21,220	410		2,750
Income from programs	13,974			
Grant income	7,500			
Total income	50,551	410		2,750
Expenses:				
Program exhibits				
Merchandise for resale	1,088			
Depreciation expense		11,271		
Salaries	13,871			
Heat, lights, water and sewer	5,099			
Janitorial services	78			
Supplies and postage	5,468			
Insurance	3,043			
Building repairs	1,563			
Taxes	1,384			
Dues	356			
Professional fees	900			
Bookkeeping expense	1,200			
Telephone	633			
Miscellaneous expense	208			
Grant expense	7,500			
Advertising				
Director's expense	541			
Total expenses	42,932	11,271		
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues over expenses	7,619	(10,861)		2,750
Individual fund balance at beginning of year	7,441	262,075	11,795	332,063
Transfers between funds	(9,740)	(98)	1,700	8,138
Individual fund balance end of year	\$ 5,320	\$251,116	\$ 13,495	\$342,951

The accompanying summary of significant account policies and notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

B. STURGES BUTLER
Public Accountant

(Chapman Street, continued from page 4)

moved into the house in March 1952. He was a mail carrier for thirty six years and also took the *Lewiston Sun* from Bethel to Milan, New Hampshire for many years. A fifty year member of the masonic lodge, he also served on the school board for ten years and was a member of the Bethel Band. Elsie has been active in Girl Scouts, Eastern Star, the P.T.A. and Methodist Church. She originated the idea of the Friday Gift Shop at the Methodist Church.

(16) Don and Arlene Greenleaf Brown's house sits on land acquired from Earl Davis in 1951. Excavation for the house was done by Robert York and Roderick McMillin, beginning on April 29, 1953. Stanley Davis built the cellar and framed up the building but the Browns completed the inside work. They moved into the house in October 1954. Arlene's aunt, Marah Stevens Webster (1886-1983) painted a mural on the front living room wall in 1957 when she was seventy one years old. Donald is a photographer and worked as a printer for 35 years at Citizen Printers. Arlene was a private piano teacher from 1943 to 1979. The Brown's son Kurt, a student at the University of Southern Maine, now has a photographic studio here.

(17) Dorothea Hitzrot's house dates from the 1870s when Robert Chapman sold the property to Dr. David W. Davis in 1878 for \$1700. Davis soon died, but in the probate records are inventories of the contents of his house including the medicines that he had on hand at the time of his death. From Dr. Davis' widow, the house passed to Albert W. Grover (1841-1908) in 1894. He is listed as a farmer in the 1870 census. Later he became a pension agent and undertaker. Albert Grover's will, in addition to providing his grandson Albert Skillings with a \$25.00 bequest, makes an interesting provision: "The faithful family horse 'Lightfoot' must be humanely cared for within the knowledge of some member of the family, and when unserviceable, given a careful burial. He is never to be exchanged as property." From the Grover family the property passed to John Burbank, a carpenter, on March 5, 1926. His wife, Lillian, gave lessons in water color and oil painting. Some of her local students in the late 1920s and early 1930s were June Brown Greig, Barbara Herrick Brown, and Beatrice Brooks Brown. From Burbank the property was sold to Richard and Grace Douglass, who operate a sand, gravel and excavation business and are well-known locally for their show ponies. They sold the property to Robert (he worked at the Comsat Station in

Andover) and Patricia Clemons in 1961, who in turn conveyed it to Rodney and Kathryn Eames in 1964. A selectman, Eames worked for the Portland Pipeline Company and she was Bethel town clerk. From the Eames family it was sold to Orlando and Edleen Fraser in 1970. Orlando Fraser, grandson of Millard who once lived across the street, sold the premises to Arthur and Althea Froburg (he was a psychologist and she, a lawyer) in 1974 who sold it to Robert (a retired naval officer) and Rebecca Fant in 1981. From the Fants it was sold to Stephen and Lynda Chandler in 1984. Mrs. Chandler's mother, Mrs. Hitzrot, lives there today.

(18) Richard and Grace Douglas sold the land for the Belisle house to Maryvonne Wheeler in 1969. It was built by Maryvonne's father, Harold Rolfe in 1969. George F. Belisle acquired the property in 1971. He recently retired after over forty years with the Canadian National Railroad. He and his wife, Lucille, now enjoy gardening here.

(19) Mount Abram Lodge, No. 31, I.O.O.F. sold the land for the present Masonic Hall to the Christian Science Society for \$1500 on July 12, 1924. It was agreed that the lot was to be used for a church. If there was ever a change of use of the property, Mt. Abram Lodge was to have the first opportunity to re-acquire the land and building. The church was built in 1924 and dedicated in 1927. Julia Brown recalls that her sister, Faith, was a tiny girl at the time and Mr. Perham (one of the carpenters) would lift her upon the scaffolding where she would sing to him while he worked. After the closing of the church in 1949, it was sold to the Bethel Lodge, AF & AM in 1952.

Chapman Street, as is the case with many Bethel avenues, has been home to a variety of people. It has long been a largely residential street, growing from five houses in 1880 to the present eighteen homes a century later.

SOCIETY OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

Alden T. Kennett, President; Marvin Ouwinga, Vice-President; Charles F. Raymond, Secretary and Clerk of the Trustees; Mary C. Keniston, Treasurer; Trustees: Persis Post, Ruth Wight, Donald Bennett, Margaret Joy Tibbetts, Donald S. Brown.

Join the Bethel Historical Society dedicated to preserving and interpreting the local past.

Membership in the Society entitles you to:

- | | |
|---|--|
| (1) free admission to the museum | (5) quarterly newsletter |
| (2) special discounts at museum store | (6) reduced course fees |
| (3) preferred rate for meeting room rental | (7) voting rights in the Society |
| (4) special library and archival privileges | (8) special invitations to Society occasions |

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-----Sustaining \$2.50 (Individual)

-----Contributing \$10.00

-----Patron \$25.00

-----Students (under 18 years) \$1.00

-----Life over 55 years \$50.00 single

-----Life over 55 years \$75.00 couple

-----Life under 55 years \$100.00 single

-----Life under 55 years \$150.00 couple

BOOK REVIEW

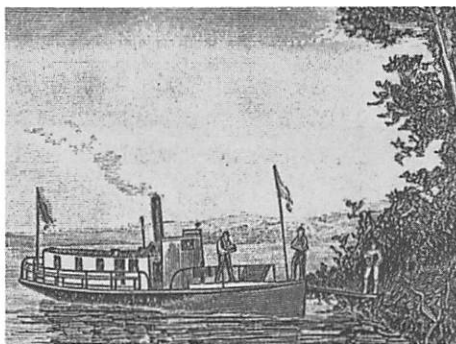
David S. Cook, *ABOVE THE BAR - THE INDIAN CANOE ROUTES OF MAINE* (Milo, Maine: Milo Printing Company, 1985) 116 pp., \$7.95 paper.

Prehistoric archaeology in Maine has not produced the exciting major "finds" that other parts of North America have produced leaving many laymen with the impression that nothing much was going on here before the first European settlers arrived along the Maine Coast in 1600. Granted, Maine did not and could not support a large, stable Indian population due to geography, lack of resources and climate, but recent discoveries (the Vail site on Lake Aziscohos for example) have shown that the area was occupied by man even before the continental glaciers completely disappeared some 10-11,000 years ago. The dense forest and Maine's many lakes (gifts of the glaciers) and fast moving rivers and streams, made the region ideal for water travel using light and maneuverable birch bark canoes. Spending the winter along the coast where it would be warmer and where there would be a reliable supply of food (fish, clams, mussels, lobsters, etc.), Indians were able to travel all over the inland areas in search of beaver, moose, berries, nuts and other resources during the snow-free months of spring, summer and fall. Combining the river routes with Maine's lakes and the many carries or portages around falls, rapids and over divides allowed the Indians to cover the entire state in their search for survival.

Dave Cook has outlined many of the more interesting routes in his book which is most informative and very easy to read. He is currently the President of the Maine Archaeological Society, a group of mostly amateur archaeologists, who work closely with Maine's few professional archaeologists to reconstruct the prehistory of Maine from the Paleo Indians of 11,000 years ago to 1600 A.D. An avid canoeist, he has traveled many of these routes so he speaks with authority. Unfortunately, Maine has changed over the past 300 or so years in the drive to harness water power and to float logs to the mills so the canoe routes will never be the same. In addition this "progress" has destroyed many of the archaeological sites that were located at or near the carries around the fast water. Still there are many places and routes for the imaginative and adventurous canoeer to explore that will evoke in one's mind something of the essence of the Indian way of life before the European invasion. This is a good book for everyone to read.

Alvin Barth

The Bethel Historical Society
P.O. Box 12
Bethel, Maine 04217



South Arm, Richardson Lakes

Published quarterly by the Bethel Historical Society, Stanley R. Howe, Editor. Please address all inquiries and suggestions to Editor, Bethel Historical Society Newsletter, Box 12, Bethel, Maine 04217. ISSN 0749-9108

IN MEMORIAM

Died, April 6, 1985, Daniel Overton of Brooklin, a Society member since 1983.

Died, August 30, 1985, Ruth Wilkinson of Bethel, a Society member since 1979.

Died September 18, 1985, Bill Sawyer of Waterford, a Society member since 1983.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Frances Lane Dunn of North Edgecomb is a member of the Gould Academy class of 1926.

Clifford and Helen Hillier, Newry, are retired. For many years he was a teacher at Gould Academy.

Roberta Kirmse, Litchfield, Connecticut, is a sister of the late Marjorie MacArthur Noll.

Martha Long, Kingston, New Hampshire, is a descendent of the Dalrymple family of Bethel.

Elizabeth Overton, Brooklin, Maine, is a descendant of Dr. Timothy Carter of Bethel.

George Noll, Bethel, has been a sustaining member since 1980 and is an active member of the Building Committee.

— — — — —
A member of the Maine Archaeological Society, Al Barth is also a life member of the Bethel Historical Society and chairman of the Education and Research Committee. He is the Alumni Director at Gould Academy in Bethel and for six years taught a historical archaeology course while excavating the 19th century mill site on Mill Brook opposite the fourth tee of the Bethel Inn Golf Course.

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